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(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how many convicted prisoners were involved in the hunger-strike?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The convicts resorted to hunger-strike because the Inspector-General of Prisons refused to transfer them to other jails, as requested by them.

" (c) Five."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know whether any of these persons who went on hunger-strike were charge-sheeted for attempting to commit suicide? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir."

Community Project Scheme for Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district.

* 98 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the improvements effected in the Ponneri taluk of Chingleput district under the Community Project Scheme; the amount granted for the purpose; and the amount spent so far;

(b) if none, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the benefits, if any, given to Harijans by these Community Projects and Development Schemes in that taluk?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Community Project Scheme has not been launched in Ponneri taluk.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

Grievances of the Homœo-practitioners.

* 99 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum, dated 10th May 1954, signed by 130 Homœo-practitioners concerning their present conditions; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) No action on the memorandum was considered necessary."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" As the Government know that this is the cheapest form of medicine and lakhs of our people have no medical facilities, will they take steps to recognize and introduce the system at least in rural areas? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" According to the memorandum, there are 16,000 full-time practitioners of homœopathic medicine. I do not know how many part-time practitioners there are. The overwhelming majority of these people are unqualified men who had no training in any recognized institution and they do not possess any medical qualification. The Government, therefore, think it undesirable to recognize such people."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Apart from recognizing such people, do Government agree that Homœopathic system must be recognized in the State, that homœopathic practitioners who have got recognized diploma or have undergone regular training should be given training and that homœopathic clinics should be started by Government in rural areas? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is no ban on the practice of Homœopathy by anybody, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the large volley of questions put on the floor of the House with regard to this matter, will the Government make its policy clear and impose a ban in the starting of institutions of that type? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are no institutions giving tuition in Homœopathy in the State. There seem to be a few people who give postal tuition."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" Sir, சென்ற சட்டசபைக் கூட்டத்திலேயே ஹோமியோபதி வைத்திய முறையைப்பற்றி அரை மணி நேரம் விவாதிக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொண்டதின்பேரில் நீங்கள் அதற்கு ஒத்துக்கொண்டும் நேரமின்மையால் விவாதம் நடக்கவில்லை. இந்தத் தடவையாவது இதற்கென அரை மணி நேரம் ஒதுக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் உங்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" இந்தக் கூட்டத்திலும் அதற்கு நேரம் இருக்குமா என்று சொல்ல முடியாமலிருக்கிறது.

" The hon. Member will have a half-an-hour debate. I cannot fix the time now."

Countersignature of the janmis in the applications for takkavi loans.

* 100 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that the requirements of janmi's countersignature as a condition precedent to the sanctioning of takkavi loans in favour of agriculturists in Malabar deprives them of the benefit of the loan; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—
" (a) Yes.